



Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20554

DEC 30 1996

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Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

The Honorable Robert E. Andrews  
Member, U.S. House of Representatives  
506A White Horse Pike  
Haddon Heights, New Jersey 08035

Dear Congressman Andrews:

Thank you for your letter of November 21, 1996, on behalf of Mantua Township Community Ambulance, Barnsboro of Sewell, New Jersey. Mantua Township Community Ambulance, Barnsboro, expresses concern regarding the possible effect on emergency services communications as a result of the Commission's recent proposal that establishes tentative policies for developing the initial digital television (DTV) channel allotments. The township objects to any plans for reassigning the television channels, 18 and 21, adjacent to channels 19 and 20, now used in New Jersey, for emergency radio services. They also indicate that the cost of purchasing new emergency radios to operate on the new channels would be prohibitive.

On July 25, 1996, the Commission proposed policies for allotting channels for DTV service and also provided a draft DTV Table of Allotments. (See Sixth Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making in MM Docket No. 87-268, FCC No. 96-317, released August 14, 1996). In that action, the Commission proposed to provide all existing television broadcasters with a second 6 MHz channel for digital broadcasting. The Commission's plan for allotment of DTV channels would maintain the channels currently used for land mobile operations in a number of major markets, including channels 19 and 20 in the Philadelphia and adjacent New Jersey region. While our draft DTV Table would provide for use of channel 21 in Vineland, New Jersey and channel 18 in Secaucus, New Jersey, we believe that engineering solutions are available for avoiding interference between DTV and land mobile operations on adjacent frequencies. At the same time, we understand the potential for interference between existing land mobile services and new DTV operations in the Philadelphia/New Jersey region. Please be assured that we are carefully evaluating all available alternatives for maintaining the interests of land mobile operators as well as broadcasters as we develop the DTV Table of Allotments.

We will also include a copy of your letter in MM Docket No. 87-268. Thank you again for your interest in this matter.

Sincerely,

Richard M. Smith  
Chief

Office of Engineering and Technology

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ROBERT E. ANDREWS  
FIRST DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-3001**

November 21, 1996

Ms. Linda Townsend Solheim  
Director, Legislative Affairs  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M St NW Rm 808  
Washington, D.C. 20036-3505

Dear Ms. Solheim:

I write to you on behalf of the Mantua Township Community Ambulance, Barnsboro, PO Box 254, Sewell, NJ 08080, who has contacted my office for assistance. Enclosed please find correspondence regarding the proposal to reassign local channels used for emergency communications to the television industry. The Mantua Township Community Ambulance strongly opposes this proposal.

I would appreciate if you would afford the Mantua Township Community Ambulance all due consideration under the law in their efforts. In addition I would be interested in receiving your review and reply to this correspondence so that I may advise them accordingly.

Please forward your response to the attention of my aide, Ms. Susan Gronek, at 506A White Horse Pike, Haddon Heights, NJ 08035, (609) 546-5100, Fax: (609) 546-9529. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



ROBERT E. ANDREWS  
Member of Congress

REA:smg  
enc.

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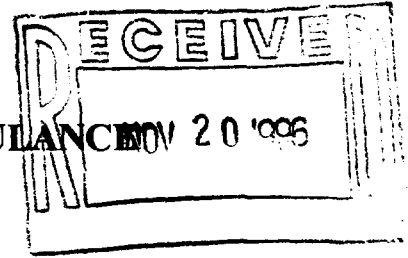
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**MANTUA TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY AMBULANCE**

**BARNSBORO**

**P.O. BOX 254**

**SEWELL, N.J. 08080**



**NOVEMBER 7, 1996**

Rep. Robert Andrews  
Gloucester County Office  
63 N. Broad St.  
Woodbury, N.J. 08096

re: Advanced Television Systems  
MM Docket no. 87-268

Dear Rep. Andrews:

The members of the Mantua Township Community Ambulance would like to express their objection to any plans for reassigning the television industry channels adjacent to the frequencies that we currently work on and/or of the possibility of reassigning the frequencies we currently work on back to the Broadcast Industry. We feel that the cost incurred by these changes, i.e. purchasing new radios, portable radios and pagers, in addition to, the cost of transferring to a new frequency, would be prohibitive to an all volunteer squad which depends on community donations. Even paid ambulance squads would need to pass on these additional costs to their municipalities at the taxpayers expense.

We urge you to take our concerns into consideration as you are making your final decision. Thank you for your time and consideration on this very important issue.

Sincerely,

Mantua Township Community Ambulance